

House District 39

Richard Foster, Democrat



DATE OF BIRTH: August 9, 1946

PLACE OF BIRTH: Nome, Alaska

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: Nome, Alaska

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 1030
Nome, Alaska 99762

OCCUPATION: Air Taxi (Retired)

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 58 years:
Nome 1946-Present

EDUCATION:

High School: Nome High School, 1964; College:
University of Alaska, 1968, B.B.A.

MILITARY:

U.S. Army, Captain, 3 years; Service Awards: Vietnam
Service Medal (2 tours), Bronze Star Medal, 2 Army
Commendation Medals.

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:

Alaska House of Representatives, 1989-2004;
Chairman, House Transportation Committee, 5 years;
Majority Whip, 12 years; Member and Co-Chair Finance
Committee, 12 years; House Seniority Rank: 2.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

Former Board Member, Sitnasuak Native Corporation;
Bering Straits Native Corporation, and Nome Eskimo
Community (IRA Council).

SERVICE ORGANIZATION(S) MEMBERSHIP:

Former Board Member Nome Community Center,
Norton Sound Health Corporation, NW Campus,
Nome School Board, Nome City Council.

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Raising children, enjoying the country

STATEMENT:

I was born and raised in a territory free of the many restrictions and regulations governing our lives today. Yet, I also remember the limited educational opportunities for our children, restricted number of jobs, and the total lack of assistance to our elders, which the state has since partially remedied.

There is a very serious budget crisis facing Alaska today. I have always sought to minimize the impact of budget cuts on rural areas, but future budget cuts loom ahead as one of the greatest dangers to State Capital appropriations, with their attending federal involvement for roads, airports, housing and water and sewer have been of utmost importance to bush communities. During the last 16 years, our House District has consistently averaged within the top 10% for appropriations to legislative districts.

There are few areas in the United States where it is as expensive to live or where the unemployment rate is so high as in our area of Alaska. I strongly believe that the long-term solution lies in the rational development of our natural resources; minerals and fishing, coupled with tourism. In this regard, the role of native corporation lands will emerge as a bright hope for our rural future.

I will work hard toward representing you and I thank you sincerely for your support.

provided and paid for by the candidate